

Congressman Jim Bridenstine represents Oklahoma's 1st District in the U.S. House of Representatives. The District includes Tulsa, Washington and Wagoner Counties, plus parts of contiguous counties.

After graduating from Jenks High School, he went to Rice University, graduating in 1998 with a triple major (economics, managerial studies, and psychology). He was captain of the Rice Men's Swim Team and still holds a number of school records.

After college, Bridenstine became a pilot in the United States Navy. He flew combat missions in Afghanistan (2002) and Iraq (2003) from an aircraft carrier, the USS Abraham Lincoln. In 2004, he received orders to fly F-18 Hornets at the Naval Strike and Air Warfare Center, where he flew enemy profiles as a target for TOPGUN instructors.

While on active duty, Bridenstine was involved in a number of business activities from real estate, to livestock, to the Rocket Racing League. In 2007, Bridenstine left active duty to earn an MBA from Cornell University. He returned to Tulsa to be the Executive Director of the Tulsa Air and Space Museum where he created the QuikTrip Air and Rocket Racing Show, attended by 40,000 people, and launched Tulsa's campaign to acquire one of three retiring space shuttles. Bridenstine is still a pilot in the Navy Reserve, flying counter-drug missions in Central and South America until taking office. Congressional rules limit his flying, but Jim remains active in the Navy Reserve.

Jim Bridenstine's background is excellent preparation for his Congressional Committee assignments on the Armed Services Committee and the Science, Space, and Technology Committee.

The 37-year-old Congressman is married to Michelle (Ivory) Bridenstine and they have three children: Walker (7), Sarah (4), and Grant (11 months).

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